

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.
PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.
State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.:
George B. Tschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of the Daily Morning Bee, published during the month of December, 1900, was as follows:

1. Morning edition	27,700	2. Evening edition	27,700
3. Sunday edition	27,700	4. Total	83,100
5. Extra editions	27,700	6. Total	110,800
7. Total	27,700	8. Total	110,800
9. Total	27,700	10. Total	110,800
11. Total	27,700	12. Total	110,800
13. Total	27,700	14. Total	110,800
15. Total	27,700	16. Total	110,800
17. Total	27,700	18. Total	110,800
19. Total	27,700	20. Total	110,800
21. Total	27,700	22. Total	110,800
23. Total	27,700	24. Total	110,800
25. Total	27,700	26. Total	110,800
27. Total	27,700	28. Total	110,800
29. Total	27,700	30. Total	110,800
31. Total	27,700	32. Total	110,800
33. Total	27,700	34. Total	110,800
35. Total	27,700	36. Total	110,800
37. Total	27,700	38. Total	110,800
39. Total	27,700	40. Total	110,800
41. Total	27,700	42. Total	110,800
43. Total	27,700	44. Total	110,800
45. Total	27,700	46. Total	110,800
47. Total	27,700	48. Total	110,800
49. Total	27,700	50. Total	110,800
51. Total	27,700	52. Total	110,800
53. Total	27,700	54. Total	110,800
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71. Total	27,700	72. Total	110,800
73. Total	27,700	74. Total	110,800
75. Total	27,700	76. Total	110,800
77. Total	27,700	78. Total	110,800
79. Total	27,700	80. Total	110,800
81. Total	27,700	82. Total	110,800
83. Total	27,700	84. Total	110,800
85. Total	27,700	86. Total	110,800
87. Total	27,700	88. Total	110,800
89. Total	27,700	90. Total	110,800
91. Total	27,700	92. Total	110,800
93. Total	27,700	94. Total	110,800
95. Total	27,700	96. Total	110,800
97. Total	27,700	98. Total	110,800
99. Total	27,700	100. Total	110,800

Net total sales \$10,563
Net daily average \$35,182
Subscribed in GEORGE B. TSCHUCK
before me this 11th day of December, A. D. 1900. M. B. HUNTER, Notary Public.

Real estate men in Omaha all wear smiles now.

Pat Crowe hasn't been caught in two days now. What's the matter?

Five dollar hogs and 40-cent corn isn't the sort of stuff to generate populism on Nebraska farmers are not worrying these days.

Iafo Young's defense of Pittsburgh Lee places a construction on the remarks of the gallant soldier that must meet the approval of patriotic Americans.

One of Phil Armour's ideas should not be lost sight of by Omaha. It was a line direct from Omaha to the Gulf to give Nebraska grain the shortest route to tide water.

Omaha's contribution to the inaugural ceremonies when Governor Van Sant of Minnesota succeeded Governor Lind was the 91-year-old father of the incoming governor.

When the busy railroad editor is not constructing new lines he engages his attention at consolidating lines already built. In either case he ignores the owners of the roads.

It has been an uphill fight to get recognition for the Omaha Indian supply depot and the battle is not yet won. Omaha needs a congressman in Washington now if ever.

It is to be hoped the stock certificates of the LaGrange colony are "handsome enough to frame," as the investors are entitled to some satisfaction for the money and time that have vanished.

Mrs. Nation's friends are now making a desperate effort to secure her release from the Wichita jail. It is becoming apparent even to her that the way of the radical reformer is not a rose-strewn path.

The Iowa National guard can go to the inauguration exercises in Washington if the members pay their own fare. There are several million more people in the country who can do the same thing.

Quotations on wives, according to an Omaha matrimonial agency, range from \$500 for one rich and handsome down to \$25 for one coming under the mere heading of "wives." If secured in the good old way, any kind of wife is worth more than these figures.

One body to levy all the taxes is the suggestion of a heavy taxpayer. It is difficult to arrange this unless county, city and school governments be consolidated. In the meantime taxpayers must remember there are three bodies having the power to levy taxes.

Andrew's last will, just opened, shows clearly the high courage of the man. With a presentiment of death he went forward in the adventure that cost his life. Science would have gained had he succeeded; mankind is richer by another example of courageous conduct.

South Dakota popocrats are taking pointers from those of Nebraska and are holding a death grip on all the offices possible. They will neither resign nor be removed if they can help it. The Nebraska pry is in use at present and South Dakota must look out for itself.

Bryan's fearful farewell to leadership, like Napoleon's just before he started to Elba, may reasonably be taken as a forecast of a return. Mr. Bryan has proven himself too thoroughly devoted to his own cause for the public to readily believe that he will voluntarily relinquish anything.

Some of the powers do not take kindly to the proposal of the United States regarding the settlement of the indemnity feature of the Chinese muddle. The same objection has been made to every proposal made by the United States and in the end they have been accepted as the best solution of the difficulty. The present case may be no exception.

RAILROAD CONSOLIDATION.

In its last annual report the Interstate Commerce commission noted the tendency toward railroad consolidation, saying: "No one at all acquainted with what is transpiring can doubt that combinations have been formed and are certain to be formed among railroads which will be more extensive, more permanent and more far-reaching in their ultimate results than those of any other department of industry." Continuation of this is being furnished in what is taking place in railroad circles and what is reported to be projected or in contemplation.

The recent purchase of the New Jersey Central road by J. Pierpont Morgan is believed to be the first move in a comprehensive scheme of combination. It places the Jersey Central, the Lehigh Valley, the Reading and the Baltimore & Ohio practically under the same direction so far as their policy relates to the anthracite coal trade. Other probabilities of the not distant future are an alliance between the Ontario & Western and the Delaware & Hudson, the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western is also regarded by some as game for the basket of Morgan and his associates. The completed and projected consolidations are believed by some to aim at nothing less than joint control of all the railroads of the country. It is pointed out that not only does the Morgan following already control the avenues approaching New York, but commands practically every means of access to Boston, Buffalo, Philadelphia and most southern points. Nor is the movement confined to the east. The recent absorption of the St. Paul, says an eastern paper, is taken as only a preliminary advance upon the far west, the middle west being already pretty well occupied by Mr. Morgan and his associates, who are said to now control all the overland highways of commerce to Chicago and St. Louis, with two exceptions.

Referring to the combination effected by Mr. Morgan, the Philadelphia Times says it goes far beyond the absolute control of the production, transportation and sale of anthracite coal. "It means a departure in reaching the markets of the world with our industrial products that has never been approached, indeed that could not have been conceived a decade ago. The competing Northern Pacific and the Great Northern railroads, each reaching the Pacific from Duluth, and which have been in active and costly competition for some years, have come directly under one management in this new movement and they, with the Baltimore & Ohio and the Reading and the Jersey Central, make another great trunk line from the eastern to the western sea, with the finest vessels of the world to bear their products westward from Tacoma to China and eastward from New York to Southampton. This great line will be perfect in equipment, alike on land and sea, and can reach the markets of the world at the minimum of cost. It is the most stupendous combination that has ever been made in industrial and financial circles." Further developments in the movements for railroad consolidation will be regarded with the greatest interest and meanwhile the question whether such combinations will be a benefit or an injury to the public will be earnestly discussed.

RUSSIAN MOVES IN CHINA.

A Pekin dispatch says that the foreign ministers are considerably astonished over a concession north of the Pei Ho, at Tien Tsin, as large as the British and French concessions combined. It is stated that the Russians explain that the grant was made voluntarily, for services in endeavoring to bring about peace and it is added that the ministers think the concession constitutes good pay when considered in addition to the annexation of all Manchuria.

It is very evident that Russia is making the most of her opportunity for increasing her territorial possessions in China and she seems to be doing this in a way not to justify any objection or protest on the part of other powers. In the practical annexation of the southern province of Manchuria Russia alleged that her action was necessary to protect a railway concession, threatened by a hostile movement on the part of the Chinese. Her right to protect the concession could not fairly be questioned, but it was the understanding that she would not go farther than was necessary to put an end to the hostile movement, she having declared that there was no purpose to take territory. Having done so, however, it is nowhere expected that she will now relinquish the so-called protectorate in Manchuria, whatever representations the other powers may make regarding her action. The tone of the Russian press clearly shows that the government regards the seizure of territory in Manchuria as an accomplished fact which it will insist shall be so regarded by all the powers. And it is highly probable that it will be recognized as a permanent occupation. The later concession of territory to Russia, if voluntarily made by China for whatever reason, cannot, it would seem, be fairly objected to by any of the powers. It should arouse them to greater vigilance as to the designs of Russia, but what she has acquired she will undoubtedly retain, regardless of the views or of the interests of any other power.

Perhaps no nation has a greater concern in the course of Russia in Manchuria than the United States. The principal port of that province is Niu-Chuang, where over one-tenth of the total foreign trade of China is handled. About one-half of all the foreign goods received at that port, according to reports of the imperial maritime customs, are of American origin, the other half being divided chiefly between Great Britain and Japan. The development of American trade with Manchuria has been rapid during the last few years and there is most favorable promise of a still more rapid growth in the future if no restrictions are placed upon commerce there. While Russia is pledged to preserve the principle of the open door, still

there is danger that she may do it expedient to sooner or later abandon it and to adopt a policy as to Manchuria that would be damaging if not disastrous to American trade there.

Doubtless our government, as well as those of other largely interested nations, is fully alive to the situation and will omit no effort to conserve American interests, but Russia has gained an important advantage that she undoubtedly will not surrender.

OMAHA'S JOBBING INTERESTS.

The election of a new directory for the Omaha Commercial club again draws attention to the expansion of the city's wholesale trade. Representatives of three new jobbing firms are among the sixty men chosen to direct the affairs of the club. These firms have come to Omaha solely for the reason that this city offers the most favorable conditions for the carrying on of their trade. One is in dry goods, one millinery and one hats and caps. These houses will draw new customers to Omaha from territory already tributary to the city and will aid very materially in pushing the commercial conquest of new territory. It is no mean tribute to the jobbing firms well established here that they have not only been enabled to maintain their stand against the vigorous and unrelenting competition they have been compelled to meet, but that they have so done it that other jobbers, seeing their advantage, have decided to come here to share with them in the work.

To the new jobbers The Bee can only commend the course of the older firms. Unity of purpose in the furtherance of the common interests of all must of a certainty redound to the individual well-being of the wholesalers. Now that they are well set in the ranks, they will doubtless keep step in the march of trade conquest the Gate City has never relinquished in the west.

Admiral Cervera, who commanded the Spanish fleet in its hopeless fight off the coast of Cuba, and who went where he was ordered knowing it was to defeat, is reported to be dying in his Spanish home. His career shows him to have been a kindly and brave man, whose judgment was far better than those who were his official superiors. In his case is another reminder that not all the world's heroes are to be found in the ranks of the victors.

As the records for the past year are compiled it is apparent that Nebraska has again been indulging in the habit of paying off its mortgage indebtedness at a lively rate. Eastern capitalists are no longer bawling the fact they hold mortgages on Nebraska lands, but are looking for places to make such investments. A few more years like the last three will put the state in the best financial condition of any in the union.

Efforts of the city health department to secure cleanliness and sanitary conditions in Omaha bakeries are not only of value to the people in general, but of real benefit to those bakers who do give heed to the laws of decency. Clean bread is essential to good health and the baker who keeps his shop in proper condition should not be compelled to compete with the baker who does not.

If Bryan really intends to relinquish the leadership of the democratic party there will be a large contingent of its members which will shed no tears. There are others who have sprung into prominence by reason of their personal relations to him who will be surprised to discover how quickly they will drop into oblivion.

THE PLAGUE OF SIGNS AND THE REMEDY FOR THE EVIL.

We are much perplexed by out-of-door advertisements. They occupy so much of the space on our fences, houses, churches, schools, barns, and mountains that we are concerned to know where we can put the next. That some place must be provided is not to be questioned. If we do not tell people what we have to sell, people will not come to the shop anyway. We find a fence or the wall of a factory, or apartment house, or a chimney, or the shade trees of a street, or the poles of the telegraph, or when the water in the gutters is so high that it washes our posters from the poles, we hire men and plaster them with statements as to our perfections and send them into the highways to instruct the populace. Yet there is a growing and dangerous body of people that cannot be reconciled to these out-of-door advertisements. There is the prosperity of chewing gum, of oatmeal, of \$1.75 shoes, of border dramas, of liver pills and other agents in civilization. If the advertising is to be stopped, what will become of the men who are to be seen in the streets? Well, then, how is it possible to lessen the advertising?

But this body of grumblers alleges that the advertising would come to just as much and, indeed, would make more of an impression on the public, if it were put in white and delivered under the eye of the people who want to look at it. They say that nothing is more effectively made invisible than by unwise repetition; that the more an advertisement is repeated, the more it is remembered. They say that the constant hum of a factory, or the rattle of the streets, ceases to hear them after a while. The people who cross the bridge every day used to see, painted on the sides of houses and on chimneys, and on what seemed to many of them a most distressing lot of appeals for the favor of the public; but, seeing them every day, the season arrived when they ceased to see them at all, just as they ceased to see the new advertisements that were put up.

These complainers declare that private houses and public monuments are not for advertising, and as to plastering natural scenery, it is a disgrace against nature. England suffers more sorely from red and yellow spasms and shrieks than we do, if advertising involves suffering, as alleged, and several influential persons in that country have been led to the rescue with orators and documents. But France is doing better than England. Its advertisements are more artistic than those of other nations, yet they are advertisements, and therefore vex the souls of certain people who contemplate the advertising to account by taxing it. Hereafter the people who would improve on nature must pay for doing it, and they who would conceal fences and house fronts beneath posters and paintings must also pay a tax. The few who continue to employ the painter, in preference to the printer, will require good work, and the number of things that vex the hearts of reformers will diminish. One does not pay large money without expecting good results. The example of France is suggested to the body of grumblers in this country. If they do not like open air art, of the kind that is so freely provided to the whole country hereabout, the best thing they can do is not to have it. It can be removed by law, and can also be removed with paint and an ax. And if not with an ax, then with a tax.

Working an Air Pump.

Pingree of Michigan in one of the men who see seeds of infinite evil in trying to produce a crop of good. Predicting a bloody revolution within twenty-five years is a poor business for any citizen of the United States. That the governor of a state can so far substitute raving for reason illustrates the truth that voters are too careless about whom they place in high office. Evils and inequalities and sorrows there are, but they will not be mended by bloody revolution.

Good Example to Follow.

New York Tribune.
"They do some things better in France." The proverb is musty, but there is nothing stale, flat or unprofitable about the decision of the French government to allow a number of disfiguring advertisements on cliffs, walls, buildings and fences, by putting a proper tax on signboards, whether they are displayed upon public or private property. The example should be followed promptly in the United States. No more hideous placards can be seen anywhere than many of those in this country.

Occidental Humor in the Orient.

Detroit Free Press.
The British officers in Pekin who gave a theatrical performance during the holiday week in the Temple of Heaven, the sanctuary in which the emperor had taken the oath of office, were told by the emperor that any cause for offense could be found in the entertainment. Nobody was bothered in the way of a playful prank, but the performance seems to have been somewhat offensive to the emperor's mind. The object of the use of a temple for vaudeville purposes. That is their misfortune, however, and it is gratifying to know that their silly prejudices were not shared on the other side of the pleasures of the European audience.

Money in Government Bonds.

New York Mail and Express.
Soon the bonded debt of the government will be only about \$1,000,000,000 and substantially one-half of that will be held by national banks as security for their notes, as there will be some profit in the issue of these securities, even with a tax of one-half of 1 percent upon the capital tied up in the bonds. The other half will command such a premium in the market that the yield from money invested in them will not be over 2 percent. They are likely to be absorbed mainly by the surplus funds of banks, which have absolute security as the basis of their credit. The day of private investment in United States bonds for income has apparently gone by.

Adequate Penalties for Kidnaping.

Nebraska is thoroughly aroused over the outrageous Cudahy kidnaping case, and very justly so. The legislature in session finds on investigation that the present Nebraska statute as to kidnaping is lame and of doubtful value. So a new bill has been introduced grading the crime in three classes. For simple kidnaping the penalty is from three to five years in the penitentiary; for kidnaping and extorting money, a term for not more than ten years; and for kidnaping and threatening injury to the victim, a capital punishment. This is one of the few crimes that is done in cold blood. In its very nature it is something that must be deliberately planned and carefully carried out by persons of cold and evil disposition. There is, therefore, no palliation for it, such as may exist for crimes that are committed in the heat of blood and under stress of temptation. It is a crime, moreover, that menaces every home in the land, and that grows apace with the liberty of children and introduces a bitter anxiety that well may ruin life. Indiana has not had this calamity to deal with thus far, but the legislature should provide adequate penalty for the crime.

OUT-OF-DOOR ADVERTISING.

The Plague of Signs and the Remedy for the Evil.
Brooklyn Eagle.
We are much perplexed by out-of-door advertisements. They occupy so much of the space on our fences, houses, churches, schools, barns, and mountains that we are concerned to know where we can put the next. That some place must be provided is not to be questioned. If we do not tell people what we have to sell, people will not come to the shop anyway. We find a fence or the wall of a factory, or apartment house, or a chimney, or the shade trees of a street, or the poles of the telegraph, or when the water in the gutters is so high that it washes our posters from the poles, we hire men and plaster them with statements as to our perfections and send them into the highways to instruct the populace. Yet there is a growing and dangerous body of people that cannot be reconciled to these out-of-door advertisements. There is the prosperity of chewing gum, of oatmeal, of \$1.75 shoes, of border dramas, of liver pills and other agents in civilization. If the advertising is to be stopped, what will become of the men who are to be seen in the streets? Well, then, how is it possible to lessen the advertising?

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These complainers declare that private houses and public monuments are not for advertising, and as to plastering natural scenery, it is a disgrace against nature. England suffers more sorely from red and yellow spasms and shrieks than we do, if advertising involves suffering, as alleged, and several influential persons in that country have been led to the rescue with orators and documents. But France is doing better than England. Its advertisements are more artistic than those of other nations, yet they are advertisements, and therefore vex the souls of certain people who contemplate the advertising to account by taxing it. Hereafter the people who would improve on nature must pay for doing it, and they who would conceal fences and house fronts beneath posters and paintings must also pay a tax. The few who continue to employ the painter, in preference to the printer, will require good work, and the number of things that vex the hearts of reformers will diminish. One does not pay large money without expecting good results. The example of France is suggested to the body of grumblers in this country. If they do not like open air art, of the kind that is so freely provided to the whole country hereabout, the best thing they can do is not to have it. It can be removed by law, and can also be removed with paint and an ax. And if not with an ax, then with a tax.

Toying with the Real Thing.

Cleveland Leader.
The Filipinos are enjoying the novel experience of holding open political meetings in Manila, and they are beginning to discover that the liberty guaranteed to them by the Americans is something more than an empty promise.

Lengthening Term in Congress.

Minneapolis Tribune.
The proposition to lengthen the congressional term to four years is not likely to meet with much favor. The house of representatives is designed to be the popular legislative body, and in order to remain such it must keep in close touch with the people, and this can only be done by frequent elections. The argument that it

takes two years for a congressman to "learn the ropes" is much out of place. Just as he is beginning to be useful to his constituents, does not usually apply to a competent congressman, who is pretty sure of a re-election.

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